Chapter – 5

CONCLUSION & SUGGESTIONS

The positive aspects of human behaviour, that is cooperation and helping others are known as altruism. Altruism is as define as the concern for the well being of others without concern for one’s self interest. Needless to mention that the term altruism was first published by August Comte. This term is frequently been used to explain egoism which are opposite to each other. Altruism is also turned as pro-social behaviour and helping behaviour in contrast to anti social behaviour. According Ervin Staub (1978) “Pro-social behaviours refers to behaviour benefiting others. A pro-social behaviour may be judged altruistic if it appears to have intended to benefit others rather than to gain either material or social rewards.

Researchers in social behaviour used the term altruism in a rather restricted way for a variety of reasons for behavioural scientist model altruistic are rare in existence for him altruism is an example of extreme social behaviour and hard to handle. For a behavioral scientist the study of altruism even creates problem. However biologists made a frequent used of altruism. For a biologist point of view altruism is a heroic phenomenon. Why being unanimous on the focal point of welfare of others, both behavioural scientists and biologists differ
in a concept of altruism itself. From a behavioural point of view, altruism is a
generic terms for other directed behaviour and their are many synonyms for such
a behavioural pattern. From a biological point of view, altruism is an index of
individuals urge to do good to others even at the cost of self sacrifice. Wispay
(1978) identify altruism with positive social behaviour having the two other
principles – helping and sympathy.

Now a days, emerging trends of violence in the society have led social
scientists to pay their special attention to the study of prosocial or altruistic
behaviour. Leading to the remedial therapies for aggressive behaviour
investigation in the field to positive social behaviour have been the using term
helping behaviour rather than altruism. Moreover, social psychologists have not
been able to draw a clear line to distinct one from the other. Even altruism has
been perceived from two angles- objective altruism and subjective altruism.

The pro-social helping behaviour or altruistic behavior is a basic
characteristic of all the human beings. However human being may differ to each
other in terms of the ratio of altruistic behaviour who will be more altruistic and
who will be less, this is the another question. First of all, it was necessary to
know why a person perform altruistic behaviour. To answer this question more
than a dozen of theories have been given in this field. Some of these are –

Social learning theory, cognitive development theory, biological theory,
psycho analytic theory, empathy- altruistic theory, normative theory, equity
theory, primitive tension theory, equity theory, primitive tension theory, cultural approach, social exchanges theory and Piliavin’s and Piliavin approach and son.

To known the factors influencing altruistic behaviours, a number of studies have been carried out in the past in India and abroad. Many variables have been studied as determinants of altruism namely recipient characteristics such as gender (Fisher Depaulo and Nadler, 1980;) resource characteristics such as cost and reward of helping behaviour (Piliavin and Rodin, 1975; Freeman, 1977; Kerber, 1984), cultural characteristics (Gorgen Ellsworth, and Seipal, 1975, Cohen 1978), situational characteristics (Latane and Darley 1970, Latane and Nida 1981, Shotland and Heinold, 1985) benefactors characteristics such as gender (Lowe and Ritchey 1973;) Shigeton, Hartmann and Gelford, 1981; Ford and Lowery, 1986; Rai and Gupta 1996; Race Brighan and Richardson, 1975), personality variable such as social responsibility of self esteem (Aronoff and Wiston, 1984, cooperation (Sauyer, 1966), extroversion and warm heartedness (smith and Nelson 1975), Locus of control and self actualization (Sharma and Rosha, 1972) have been found to influence to altruism.

On the basis of above discussion, it can be stated that a number of socio psychological, personal and economic variables can contribute significantly to the emergence and development of altruistic behaviour among the individual. This is also a fact that all the possible factors of altruistic behavior cannot be reviewed in a limited compass of doctoral dissertation. Keeping this point in view only those variables were received in the present section, which were
included in the present study. Consequently, the sex difference, SES and physical handicapping as affecting variable of altruism are in the present study (C.F. Chapter-II). Needless to mention that physical handicapping, sex difference and socio economic deprivation are strong contributor of altruistic behaviour, it is evident from the studies conducted in the past and reviewed in the chapter-II of the present study. It is a fact, that altruistic behaviour and its linkage with handicapping and SES have not been given much more attention specially in Indian cross cultural societies. Although various studies have been made in western societies but the findings are, however can not be generalied on Indian population due to ethnic, cultural and societal variations. Keeping these points in view, the present study was undertaken to explore the impact of gender and SES on altruistic behaviour of handicapped and non handicapped school going students.

The study has been made on 600 secondary and senior secondary student school students of Board of High School and Intermediate Education U.P. board and C.B.S.E. Meerut Mandal. The total sample was based upon two broad categories-handicapped (N = 300) and non handicapped (N = 300) students. Both the categories were further divided into male (N = 150) and female (N = 150) groups. From the four groups, each group was divided on the basis of SES in three sub groups, namely – upper class, middle class and lower class.
Methodology:

“A scientific investigation is based on a research problem. It attempts to find the relationship between independent and dependent variable. Methodology is the plant structure and strategy of investigations to answer research problem validity, objectively, accurately and economically, this is done through setting up the frame work of adequate tests of the relation among variables (Kerlinger, 1991).

The present study will be divided into two groups, one groups is experimental (Physically Handicapped Students), other groups is control (Physically Normal Students).

Tools and Techniques:

For the measurement, Altruism Scale constructed and standralized by Dr. S.N. Rai and Sanwat Singh (1988) was used and for the measurement of SES of the respondents family Socio-economic Status Scale constructed and standardized by Singh, Shyam and Kumar (2006) was used.

That data was collected on the sampled subject in small groups consisting of 20-30 student in a classroom situation.
**Statistical Analysis:**

T-test, F-Test & other appropriate statistical techniques will be used according to nature of Data.

**Delimitations of the Study:**

1. Study will be derived from students of Board of High and Intermediate Education U.P. school and C.B.S.E. School Meerut Mandal (Uttar Pradesh) only.

2. Study will be derived from 150 girls and 150 boy’s students in each group.

3. Study will be derived from Class IX to Class XII students only.

**The present study has been directed to the following objectives –**

1. To study the altruistic behaviour of the physically handicapped and physically normal students.

2. To study the effect of socio-economic status on altruistic behaviour of the physically handicapped and physically normal school students.

3. To study the effect of gender on altruistic behaviour of physically handicapped and physically normal school students

4. To study altruistic behaviour of physically handicapped and physically normal students regarding any sex difference.

**Keeping in view the objectives of present study. The following hypothesis have been formulated for empirical verification.**

1. There exists no significant difference in the altruistic behaviour of the physically handicapped male and female school students.
2. There exists no significant difference in the altruistic behaviour of the physically handicapped school students of different social economic status.

3. There exists no significant interaction effect of gender and socio economic status of the physically handicapped school students on their altruistic behaviour.

4. There exist no significant difference in the altruistic behaviour of physically normal male and female school students.

5. There exist no significant difference in the altruistic behaviour of physically normal school students of different socio-economic status.

6. There exists no significant interaction effect of gender and socio-economic status of physically normal school students on their altruistic behaviour.

7. There exists no significant difference between physically handicapped and physically normal school students in terms of their altruistic behaviour.

8. There exists no significant difference between physically handicapped and physically normal school students in their altruistic behaviour in relation to gender.

9. There exists no significant difference between physically handicapped and physically normal school students in their altruistic behaviour in relation to socio-economic status.
The Findings are as follows –

1. Altruistic behaviour as measured through Altruism Scale differentiated significantly the male and female groups of physically handicapped student. Beyond the hypothesis, female subjects have scored significantly higher on altruistic behaviour in comparison to their male counter parts.

2. When upper, middle and lower class physically handicapped students are compared in terms of their scores on Altruism Scale, middle class students have scored significantly higher in comparison to upper class and to lower class physically handicapped students. It indicates that the middle class physically handicapped student are more altruistic than their upper class as well as lower class counter parts.

3. The main effect of sex difference was found to be significant in contributing to the altruism in case of physically handicapped students, however the main effect of SES groups was found to be insignificant. But the two variable were found to be significant in contributing altruism among physically handicapped students interactionally.

4. Altruistic behaviour as measured through Altruism Scale differentiated significantly the male and female groups of physically normal students. Beyond the hypothesis, female subjects have scored significantly higher on altruistic behaviour in comparison to their male, counter part.

5. When upper, middle and lower class physically normal students compared in terms of their scores on altruism scale the lower class respondents have scored significantly higher in comparison to upper class and middle class respondents. Similarly the upper class subjects have scored significantly higher on Altruism Scale than middle class students. It indicates that lower class students are more altruistic than upper class
and middle class students and upper class students are more altruistic than middle class students.

6. ANOVA results show that the main effect of gender and SES groups are significant on altruistic behaviour. The interaction effect of the two groups was also found to be significant in contributing altruistic behaviour.

7. When physically handicapped and physically normal students compared in terms of their scores on altruistic behaviour, physically handicapped subjects have scored significantly higher than physically normal subjects. It indicates that physically handicapped students are more altruistic than normal students.

8. ANOVA result show that the main effect of gender and handicapping and non handicapping groups as well as their interactional effect were found to be significant in contributing to the altruistic behaviour of the students.

9. When main effect of SES and physical handicapping- non handicapping groups and their interactional effect on altruistic behaviour were computed with the help of two way analysis of variance all the three effects were found to be significant statistically.

The following general conclusion can be drawn from the present study –

1. Female students of physical handicapping group are more altruistic in comparison to their male counter parts.

2. Middle class students of physically handicapped group are more altruistic than upper class and lower class students.
3. Sex difference with the interaction of socio economic status is able to contribute significantly to the altruistic behaviour of physically handicapped students.

4. Female students of physically normal group are more altruistic in comparison to their male counterparts.

5. Lower class students of physically normal groups are more altruistic than upper class and middle class students.

6. Upper class student of physically normal groups are more altruistic than middle class students.

7. Sex difference with the interaction of socio economic status is able to contribute significantly to the altruism among physically normal students.

8. Physically handicapped student are more altruistic than physically normal students.

9. Sex difference with the interaction of physical handicapping group is able to contribute significantly to the altruistic behaviour of the students.

10. SES with the interaction of physical handicapping group is able to contribute significantly to the altruistic behaviour of the student.

**Significance of the study**

The present study has however limited focus. It is based on 600 male and female students of high schools located at Meerut city proper obviously this study covered a limited area. Similar studies need to be carried out in rural, semi
urban and urban settings in public and private schools covering relevant variables. It may also be pointed out that variables as covered in the present investigation are not so exhaustive. Some attempts should be made to highlight the role of personality values, temperament, nature of family, parental education etc. in the altruistic behaviour. In spite of certain limitation, of the present study, it may prove a guideline for future researchers to be conducted in this area.

**Suggestions and Implications of the further study**

The findings of the present study will also applicable in the field of the education of handicapped children and planning for their education in the schools. It may prove useful for the governments and non-governmental agencies in planning their educational establishments. It is also useful to the parent of such children.

In this direction it may be suggested that the study of altruistic behaviour should be on large sampled covering rural, urban samples and some other socio-physiological variables, like parental education, parental occupation, values, temperament and so on.